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1917

RED CROSS. SURGICAL DRESSINGS,
HOSPITAL GARMENTS AND SUPPLIES.

UH 440 R312s 1917

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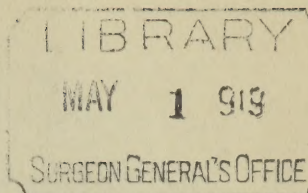


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A R C 164 (This supersedes A R C 126)
April 27, 1917



DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY RELIEF

BUREAU OF

RED CROSS SUPPLY SERVICE

SURGICAL DRESSINGS, HOSPITAL GARMENTS AND SUPPLIES

FOR

U. S. MILITARY RELIEF

Base hospital units (see A R C 135) have been organized under special instructions from the Surgeons General of the Army and Navy, and the public is earnestly requested to assist not only in the contribution of money, but in the preparation of the necessary supplies, especially those which can be made by volunteer workers.

The Red Cross is anxious to have available a sufficient quantity of non-perishable goods to meet the first demands of our Army and Navy. When the needs of war arise, the means of meeting them should be available to avoid the vast amount of suffering which otherwise would result.

STORAGE AND SHIPMENT OF SUPPLIES

It is suggested that each chapter should make some local arrangement for the storage of supplies, made or collected from other groups and agencies, until a sufficient quantity has accumulated to warrant a shipment. It is desirable, when practicable, that supplies for hospital purposes should reach Red Cross warehouses through a Red Cross chapter, as that will afford greater certainty that they are made according to standard specifications. But when it is not convenient to send such supplies, when made by another agency, to the nearest Red Cross chapter, they may be shipped directly, as should be done by the chapters themselves, to the central warehouses provided for that purpose.

Warehouses for the collection and storage of these supplies have already been established by the Department of Military Relief, which has organized for this purpose the bureau of "Red Cross Supply Service" (A R C 154). These warehouses and offices of the Directors in charge are:

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NEW YORK BRANCH

Warehouses
 Red Cross Supply Service,
 Bush Terminal,
 Brooklyn, N. Y.

Offices
 Otto T. Bannard,
 Room 342, Metropolitan Tower,
 New York City.

NORTHEASTERN BRANCH

Red Cross Supply Service,
 1000 Washington Street,
 Boston, Mass.

Henry S. Dennison,
 1000 Washington Street,
 Boston Mass.

CHICAGO BRANCH

Red Cross Supply Service,
 225 East Illinois Street,
 Chicago, Ill.

A. A. Sprague, 2d,
 112 West Adams Street,
 Chicago, Ill.

NEW ORLEANS BRANCH

Red Cross Supply Service,
 United States Mint,
 New Orleans, La.

H. R. Labouisse,
 505 Hennen Building,
 New Orleans, La.

DENVER BRANCH

Red Cross Supply Service,
 1612, 15th Street,
 Denver, Colorado.

W. G. Evans,
 809 Central Savings Bank Bldg.
 Denver, Colorado.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

Red Cross Supply Service,
 831 Mission Street,
 San Francisco, Calif.

A. B. C. Dohrmann,
 502 California Street,
 San Francisco, Calif.

It is suggested that the directors of the respective branches of "Red Cross Supply Service" be notified whenever shipments are made or about to be made. These directors will supply the suitable form of invoices to be used for all such shipments.

Materials in bulk will later be placed in each of these warehouses to be sold at cost for cash to chapters of the Red Cross. Blank forms on which to make such orders will be supplied by the directors of branches of Red Cross Supply Service. The directors will sell only prescribed minimum quantities.

DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING SUPPLIES

When definite directions for making garments and supplies are not given in this circular patterns and samples of material together with sample boxes of surgical dressings accompanied by minute directions, also Red Cross emblems, can be procured upon request from the following distributing centers:

Boston Chapter will supply requests from all New England States except Connecticut. Address:

Miss Ellen T. Emerson,
 83 Newbury Street, Boston, Mass.

New York Chapter: New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. Address:

Mrs. Belmont Tiffany,
 411 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Philadelphia Chapter: Pennsylvania and Delaware. Address:

Mrs. John H. Gibbon,
221 South 18th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Baltimore Chapter: Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina. Address:

Miss Elizabeth Clark,
1025 Belvidere Terrace, Baltimore, Md.

Cleveland Chapter: Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee. Address:

Mrs. Adelaide McKee,
2525 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

Chicago Chapter: Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa and Arkansas. Address:

Mrs. Phillip S. Doane,
67 E. Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

San Francisco Chapter: Washington, Oregon, Nevada, California and Arizona. Address:

Mrs. Thurlow McMullin,
2200 California Street, San Francisco, Calif.

Red Cross emblems are to be used only on the following garments:

Pajamas.	Shoulder wraps.
Hospital bed shirts.	Bath robes.

See patterns for location of emblems.

Emblems required for base hospital equipment, approximately 3,500.

Emblems should not be sewed upon garments or fancy articles for sale.

Distributing centers may charge for patterns, etc., the following prices:

Emblems.....	\$4.00 per 1,000
Patterns.....	.10 each
Sample boxes.....	1.00 each

This circular does not supplement the one issued for European Relief, but is intended only for those who wish to prepare dressings and hospital supplies for use in our own country. For specifications for European surgical supplies see A R C 139, or A R C 165, which is the revised edition.

It is suggested that small groups or circles of volunteer workers be formed and that each group be made responsible for the preparation of one class of supplies.

N. B.—It is very important that all supplies conform to the same standard. Therefore, to avoid loss of time and material, it is earnestly requested that the directions regarding quantities, preparation and packing be followed exactly.

PACKING AND MARKING BOXES

With a view to simplicity and economy the standard packing boxes, each to contain a definite allowance as formerly called for, are no longer required, but boxes already so packed *will be acceptable*. Each box should hereafter be filled with articles of one kind or at least of the same class, e. g., surgical dressings, hospital linen, patients' clothing. It is recommended that cases be strongly made of wood not less than $\frac{5}{8}$ inch thick, carefully selected, to insure safe transportation. Boxes should be of medium size (about 3 x 2 x 2 feet),

lined with waterproof paper. Inquire of stationers for information. *News-papers should not be used.* Each box should be plainly marked with paint, on top: "U. S. Military Relief." A complete list of contents should also be painted on the front and a duplicate typewritten list should be placed inside the cover. Name and address of shipper should also be marked on each box. On each end should appear a Red Cross $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width and height, with the words "American Red Cross" about it in a circle.

Stencils and outfit for marking will be supplied at a cost of \$2.50 upon application to Red Cross Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

ALLOWANCE OF ITEMS

The number after each article indicates the minimum allowance thereof required for an Army Base Hospital of 500 beds (one-half this amount would be needed for a Navy Base Hospital of 250 beds). In the absence of definite instructions to the contrary these proportions should be used as a general guide in planning work.

SURGICAL DRESSINGS

Class "A"

GAUZE BANDAGES

Size—2 inches wide, 10 yards long (26 dozen).

Size—3 inches wide, 10 yards long (104 dozen).

Size—4 inches wide, 10 yards long (52 dozen).

Material—to be clean white cotton gauze, fully bleached and absorbent, uniformly woven, dry and soft finish, not less than 43 x 38 mesh.

NOTE:—It is recommended that gauze bandages be purchased ready made unless experience is desired in rolling them. There is no economy, however, in making bandages from the raw material.

(One-half dozen of same size in each package, tied firmly.)

(Covers of muslin not required.)

GAUZE COMPRESSES OR PADS

Size—9 inches square, 8 thicknesses (208 dozen).

Size—4 inches square, 16 thicknesses (312 dozen).

Material—white absorbent gauze, grade 2A (mesh 20 x 16 threads to the inch).

NOTE:—3A gauze (mesh, 20 x 12) may be used but 2A is recommended.

(Two dozen of same size in each package.)

GAUZE ROLLS

Size—3 yards long, 4 inches wide, 4 thicknesses (52 dozen).

Size—1 yard long, 4 inches wide, 4 thicknesses (26 dozen).

Material—same as for gauze pads.

(One-half dozen of same size in each package, tied firmly.)

GAUZE WIPES OR SPONGES

Size—4 inches square (350 dozen).

Size—2 inches square (50 dozen).

Approximate size.

Material—same as for gauze pads.

(Two dozen of same size in each package.)

GAUZE DRAINS

Size—2 inches wide, 2 yards long, 4 thicknesses (26 dozen).

Size—1 inch wide, 2 yards long, 4 thicknesses (26 dozen).

Size— $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide, 1 yard long, 4 thicknesses (26 dozen).

Material—same as for gauze pads.

(Wrap each drain separately, after which place 1 dozen of one size in muslin cover ready for sterilizing.)

GAUZE LAPAROTOMY PADS WITH TAPES

Size—12 inches square, 6 thicknesses (13 dozen).

Size—6 inches square, 9 thicknesses (26 dozen).

Size—4 inches wide, 16 inches long, 8 thicknesses (13 dozen).
(Approximate size).

Material—same as for gauze pads.

(One-half dozen of same size in each package.)

KNITTED WIPES OR SPONGES (substitutes for gauze sponges)

(30 dozen or less.)

Directions for knitting, etc.:

Dexter knitting cotton No. 8, three ply.

M and K knitting cotton No. 10, three ply or equivalent.

Knitting needles No. 5, Amber or equivalent.

Cast on 35 stitches.

Knit two ribs on one side and one rib on other (over and back is one rib).

Knit one stitch, put thread around needle, knit next stitch and repeat to end of row.

Knit the knitted stitch, drop the thread around needle and repeat to end of row and repeat instructions until you have ten of the double rows and nine of the single large mesh rows, and finish.

(One dozen in each package.)

NOTE 1:—Compresses, gauze rolls, sponges, laparotomy pads and knitted wipes should be wrapped in a cover of cotton cloth (unbleached preferable) or clean old undamaged cotton or linen, sufficiently large to completely cover contents. State clearly on each package kind and number of dressings, for example:

American Red Cross
.....Chapter
24 Gauze Pads, 4 Inches Square

Rubber stamps are suggested for marking but are not supplied by National Headquarters.

NOTE 2:—Owing to the fact that dressings may be stored indefinitely and the difficulty encountered in securing rustless pins, it is recommended that all packages be tied securely with stout string.

NOTE 3:—In well organized work rooms where groups of expert workers have been developed, gauze may be cut by machinery. Authorized Red Cross Instructors giving the course "Preparation of Dressings" should teach cutting by a drawn thread, as it is important to develop accuracy and neatness before skill can be acquired.

NOTE 4:—Approximately 8,320 yards of gauze will be required to make the gauze dressings for each army Base Hospital.

Class "B"

MUSLIN BANDAGES

Size—3 inches wide by 7 yards long (32 dozen).

Size—4 inches wide by 7 yards long (32 dozen).

Directions—Bandages should be wound tightly on a bandage-roller, fastened with a small pin. As a matter of economy it is recommended that muslin one yard wide be used as follows: Remove selvage edges and rip cloth into strips of *equal* width, 12 strips for 3-inch and 9 strips for 4-inch bandages. Bandages will be slightly narrower than standard but near enough for practical purposes.

(Bandage-rollers can be purchased from any dealer in surgical supplies. Small rollers can usually be purchased for about \$2.50.)

Material—cotton cloth, unbleached, uniformly woven to the full width of 36 inches, with proper selvages at both edges. Mesh 56 x 56 or 56 x 60.

(One-half dozen in each package, tied firmly.)

CRINOLINE BANDAGES

Size—3 inches wide, 5 yards long (3 dozen).

Size—4 inches wide, 5 yards long (2 dozen).

Crinoline, as per sample. Fine mesh is *not* desirable.

Directions—wind by hand and fasten with pin.

(One-half dozen in each package.)

FLANNEL BANDAGES

Size—3 inches wide, 5 yards long (3 dozen).

Size—4 inches wide, 5 yards long (2 dozen).

Directions—May be wound tightly by hand or on a bandage-roller, fastened with a small pin.

Material—White or unbleached outing flannel, same as for operating leggings.

(One-half dozen in each package, tied firmly.)

HEAD BANDAGES—FOUR-TAILED (5 dozen)

Directions—Use 1-yard wide good quality unbleached muslin. Tear 8 inches the width of the goods. Fold lengthwise and tear along the crease 12 inches from each end.

Material—same as for muslin bandages.

T BANDAGES (3 dozen)

Directions—Fold neatly and fasten with two safety pins.

Material—same as for muslin bandages.

TRIANGULAR BANDAGES OR SLINGS (10 dozen)

Directions for making—Cut muslin one yard square, fold on bias and cut, making two bandages triangular in shape from each square; narrow hem for raw edges. Fold neatly and fasten with two safety pins.

Material—same as for muslin bandages.

(One dozen in each package.)

ABDOMINAL BANDAGES OR BINDERS (10 dozen)

Directions for making—Cut muslin one and one-half yards long, fold lengthwise, sew edges together, making the binder double, one and one-half yards long by one-half yard wide, when finished. Fold neatly and fasten with six safety pins.

Material—same as for muslin bandages.

(One dozen in each package.)

OAKUM PADS (12 dozen)

Size—7 by 11 inches.

(Six in each package.)

FRACTURE OR SPLINT PILLOWS (6 dozen)

(To protect fractured limbs from splints.)

Size—13 x 17 inches.

May be filled with waste cotton clippings, picked sphagnum moss, Spanish moss or similar materials.

(Three in each package.)

NOTE:—Muslin articles, oakum pads and fracture pillows need not be wrapped in covers: may be tied together with stout string.

HOSPITAL LINEN**SHEETS, BED (250 dozen) (3,000 sheets)**

Size—finished, 63 inches by 99 inches, 2-inch hem at top and 1-inch hem at bottom. If purchased, made up sheets usually have 3-inch hem at top, 1-inch hem at bottom, making the finished sheet about 63 x 95 inches. This will be acceptable. The stock size of this sheet is known as "63 x 99 inches torn." There is very little economy in making sheets from the raw material.

Although the above dimensions have been adopted as a matter of economy, a sheet 72 inches by 108 inches "torn" is preferred.

Material—bed sheeting, "Garza," "Pequot," "Colonial," "Utica," or "Mohawk" brands, or equivalent.

(One-half dozen in each package.)

SHEETS, DRAW (150 dozen)

Size—72 inches by 72 inches torn, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch hem both ends.

Material—unbleached sheeting, medium weight.

SPREADS (90 dozen)

Material—light dimity.

Size—about 72 inches wide, 90 inches long.

NOTE:—While this item is desirable it is not indispensable and may be omitted as a matter of economy.

PILLOWCASES (200 dozen)

The stock size is 39 x 21 inches.

Material—same as for bed sheets, 42 inches wide.

NOTE:—If cut 39 inches long and made with a 2-inch hem and seam at end, the pillowcase would measure about 36 inches long and 21 inches wide finished.

TOWELS, HAND (for Patients and Personnel). (240 dozen.)

Size and Material—Same as operating towels.

(One dozen in each package.)

TOWELS, DISH (20 dozen)

Size—18 x 30 inches.

Material—Good quality blue (or red) bordered cotton crash, 18 inches wide cut 32 inches long.

TOWELS, TURKISH BATH (80 dozen)

Size—about 19 x 38 inches.

Material—white Turkish toweling weighing about 6 lbs. to the dozen.

(One-half dozen in each package.)

TABLE NAPKINS (200 dozen)

Size—about 14 inches square, hemmed.

Material—Old table linen or napkins may be used. If material is purchased, "Indian Head" 44 inches wide is suggested.

(One dozen in each package.)

TRAY COVERS (80 dozen)

Size—about 15 inches by 22 inches, hemmed.

Material—Old table linen or napkins may be used. If material is purchased use same as for table napkins.

Articles made from old linen may be used in an emergency for surgical dressings. The material should, therefore, be freshly laundered and boiled.

(One dozen in each package.)

WASH CLOTHS (60 dozen)

Size—10 inches square.

Material—Knit or crocheted from cotton yarn, or made from old Turkish toweling, heavy towels, or counterpanes.

If desired, a cheap stock article of Turkish toweling or similar material may be purchased ready made.

Directions for knitting—8 or 10 3-ply knitting cotton may be used; 61 stitches, No. 4 needles, *knit* about 10 inches square.

HOT-WATER BAG COVERS (7 dozen)

Size—13 inches by 15 inches. Finish with draw string at top.

Material—same as for operating leggings.

ICE-BAG COVERS (7 dozen)

Size—13 inches by 15 inches. Finish with draw string at top

Material—same as used for helmets.

SCRUB CLOTHS (24 dozen)

Size—about 24 x 24 inches finished.

DUST CLOTHS (24 dozen)

Size—about 18 x 18 inches, double tape loop on corner.

Material—cheesecloth preferred.

OPERATING ROOM LINEN

GOWNS, OPERATING (for Doctors and Nurses). (7 dozen)

Two Sizes—16 and 17.

Materials—"Pepperell," "Middy," "Lonsdale," or "Hill" twill, or equivalent quality.

(One-half dozen in each package, equal quantities of each size.)

CAPS, OPERATING (7 dozen)

Material—same as for operating gowns.

(One-half dozen in each package.)

HELMETS, OPERATING (4 dozen)

Material—36 inch, white cambric, undressed; *light weight*.

(One-half dozen in each package.)

LEGGINGS, OPERATING (for Patients). (7 dozen [pairs])

Material—Bleached canton flannel, medium weight, about 29 inches wide, or white or unbleached outing flannel (Domet flannel) "Wara" or equivalent quality.

(One-half dozen in each package.)

SHEETS, OPERATING (23 dozen)

Size—45 inches by 54 inches finished. One-inch hem at each end.

Material—"Mohawk," "Pepperell," or equivalent sheeting 45 inches wide.

(One-half dozen in each package.)

TOWELS, OPERATING (42 dozen)

Size—18 x 30 inches.

Material—white cotton huck, medium quality.

(One dozen in each package.)

PATIENTS' CLOTHING

HOSPITAL BED SHIRTS (125 dozen)

Two Sizes—18 and 20.

Material—Twill, same as for operating gowns; muslin, same as for muslin bandages may be used, but this material is not so desirable.

(One dozen in each package.)

PAJAMAS (80 dozen)

Two Sizes—38 and 42.

Materials—Cotton oxford (cheviot); "Riverside," or equivalent. Gingham: "Bates," or equivalent. Seersucker: "Bates," or equivalent. Outing flannel: "Amoskeag 1921," "Teazledown," or equivalent for "fancy" patterns.

NOTE:—Soft grays in plain or striped outing flannels are recommended.

(Three suits in each package.)

CONVALESCENT GOWNS OR BATHROBES (40 dozen)

Two Sizes—38 and 44.

Material—"Beacon Mills" bathrobing, or as near this grade as the market affords.

NOTE:—Soft browns, grays or blues are preferable.

(Three in each package.)

SHOULDER WRAPS OR "NIGHTINGALES" (20 dozen)

Size—2 yards long, 1 yard wide or less, according to width of material.

Material—"Daisy Cloth," or equivalent.

(One dozen in each package.)

SOCKS (1,200 pairs)

Size—Three sizes are recommended in about the following proportions: one dozen No. 10, 3 dozen No. 11, one dozen No. 12. One size only in each package, which should be marked accordingly.

Material required for knitting—six-oz. 3-ply yarn, 4 No. 11 knitting needles. Knitting directions furnished upon request.

Ready made socks should be medium weight, and unbleached "balbriggan" is recommended. Wool is now too expensive.

(One dozen pairs in each package.)

BED SOCKS (20 dozen)

Size—Length of foot about 11 inches.

Knit or crocheted of woolen, or heavy cotton yarns, or made from pieces of warm material left from other garments.

(Place mothball in toe of each woolen sock.)

(One dozen pairs in each package.)

HANDKERCHIEFS (200 dozen)

Size—about 18 inches square.

Material—Plain cotton handkerchiefs costing about five cents a piece are satisfactory. Linen is not recommended at present owing to the high cost.

(One dozen in each package.)

SUBSTITUTES FOR HANDKERCHIEFS (200 dozen)

Size—about 18 inches square.

Material—Old linen or muslin, hemmed or unhemmed.

(One dozen in each package.)

MISCELLANEOUS SUPPLIES**WARD SLIPPERS (480 pairs)**

Sizes—Four sizes are recommended in the following proportions: one pair size No. 8, 2 pairs size No. 9, 2 pairs size No. 10, one pair, size No. 11.

In the present state of the market it seems undesirable to specify one particular type, as any low-heeled or heelless leather slipper with "orthopedic" toe last will answer the purpose. Cloth slippers are not recommended.

EQUIPMENT FOR ONE PATIENT

The following supplies are suggested for those who desire to contribute equipment for one patient:

	<i>No. of articles in one equipment.</i>	<i>No. of articles for one (Army) Base Hospital.</i>
Sheets.....	6	270
Draw sheets.....	4	180
Spreads.....	2	90
Pillowcases.....	4	180
Pajamas.....suits.....	3	135
Hospital bed shirts.....	4	180
Convalescent gown.....	1	45
Socks.....pairs.....	4	180
Bed socks.....pairs.....	2	90
Bath towels.....	2	90
Face towels.....	4	180
Wash cloths.....	3	135
Slippers.....pairs.....	1	45
Hot-water bag covers.....	1	45
Ice-bag covers.....	1	45
Handkerchiefs.....	6	270

Make according to specifications. Wrap each equipment in one parcel and mark "Equipment for One Patient."

The approximate cost of material for each equipment is from \$15.00 to \$18.00.

If the individual equipments for 45 patients are not provided for a Base Hospital an equal number of the articles specified should be added to the allowance as given herein.

COMFORT BAGS

Bags should be made of washable material and may contain any or all of the following articles (size of bag 10 by 13 inches, with draw string at top):

- | | |
|--|--|
| *Khaki-colored sewing cotton, number 30. | Small comb. |
| White sewing cotton, number 30. | Tooth brush. |
| White darning cotton. | Tooth paste. |
| Needles, number 5. | Small round mirror. |
| Darning needle. | Handkerchiefs. |
| Needle case. | Lead pencil. |
| *Buttons, khaki-colored and white, medium size, in bags 3" x 5". | Writing pad, envelopes and post cards. |
| Large thimble. | Playing cards. |
| Blunt-pointed scissors. | Collapsible aluminum drinking cup. |
| Cake of soap. | Pocket knife. |
| Safety pins, medium size. | *Shoe laces, tan. |
| Common pins. | |

*In comfort bags made for the Navy, sewing cotton, buttons and shoe laces should be black.

SUPPLIES FOR BASE HOSPITAL PERSONNEL

The following items are suggested for Base Hospital Units which desire to provide for their own personnel (medical officers and nurses):

NAPKINS (30 dozen)

Size—24 x 24 inches, hemmed.

Material—Mercerized cotton or Indian Head.

(One dozen in each package.)

TABLECLOTHS

Size—36 x 108 inches, hemmed.

Material—Mercerized cotton or Indian Head.

(One-half dozen in each package.)

GLASS TOWELS (6 dozen)

Size—About 18 x 30 inches, hemmed.

Material—White or figured glass cotton toweling.

(One dozen in each package.)

DISH TOWELS (6 dozen)

Same as specified under Hospital Linen.

TOWELS (12 dozen)

Size—About 18 x 30 inches, hemmed.

Material—Cotton crash toweling.

(One dozen in each package.)

DISH CLOTHS (12 dozen)

Size—About 16 x 16 inches, hemmed.

Material—Honeycomb or other suitable material.

(One dozen in each package.)

SCRUB CLOTHS (12 dozen)

Size—About 24 x 24 inches, hemmed.

(One dozen in each package.)

DUST CLOTHS (12 dozen)

Size—About 18 x 18 inches, double tape loop on corner.

Material—Cheesecloth preferred.

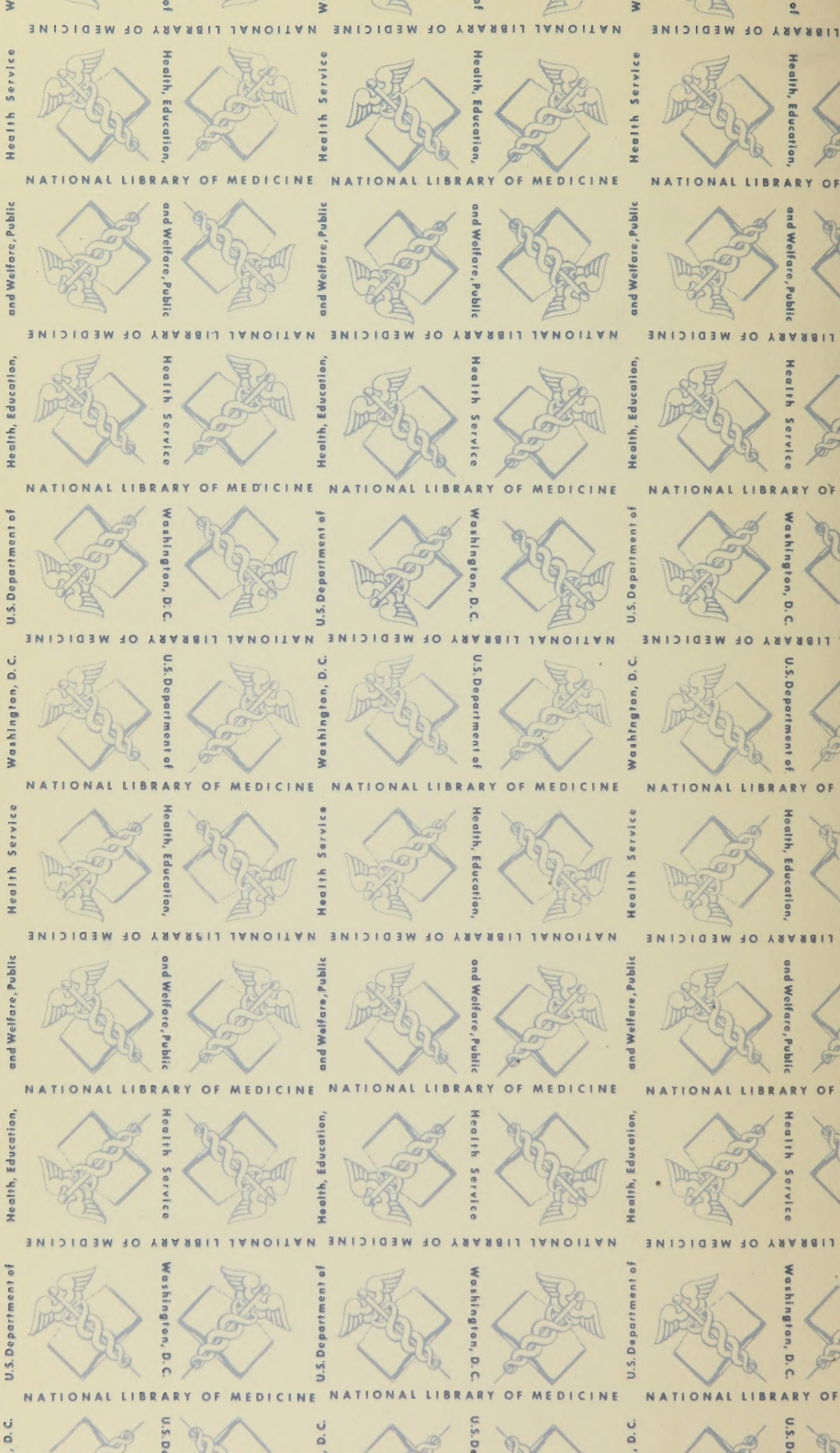
(One dozen in a package.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For general information regarding supplies listed herein address "Red Cross Supply Service, Red Cross Headquarters, Washington, D. C."

For information concerning Course of Instruction, Preparation of Surgical Dressings, address "Bureau of Nursing Service, Red Cross Headquarters, Washington, D. C."

Req. 17-611—April—1944



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